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11 April 1948

Mr. Herbert Hoover
Commission on Organization of the
Executive Branch of the Government
1625 K Street N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am in receipt of your letter of 10 April 1948 regarding work being conducted by the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government.

I have been authorized to make available information now being compiled in conjunction with the survey under the auspices of the National Security Council with the understanding that any reports, etc., furnished your Committee will be returned to the National Security Council. It should be noted that the report of this survey may not be completed for a considerable time.

Captain Walter O. Ford, U. S. Navy, the Executive Director of Central Intelligence, will be available to you and your Committee on foreign affairs for purposes of assisting your Commission, and can be contacted by phone at Executive 6115, Extension 707.

I trust that the above arrangements are agreeable to you.

Sincerely yours,

Signed

E. E. HILLENKOTTER
Rear Admiral, USN

Director of Central Intelligence

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April 16, 1948

Rear Adm. Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter
Director of Central Intelligence Agency
Room 7135, Federal Works Agency Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Admiral Hillenkoetter:

The Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, established by P.L. 162, 80th Congress, is charged by the Congress with investigating and reporting on the present organization and methods of operation of all instrumentalities of the executive branch of the government. One phase of this investigation is the intelligence activities of the various departments and other agencies, for which the Central Intelligence Agency has the responsibility of coordination in the interest of national security.

In view of certain information you have made available to the Chairman of the Commission as to the independent study currently being made in the field of government intelligence under the auspices of the National Security Council, it would appear unnecessary for the Commission to conduct a separate investigation. It does appear desirable, however, for the Commission, through approved representatives, to receive information on this study currently being made so that an appraisal can be made of the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency and its relationship to Department of State and other departments and agencies performing intelligence functions.

It is believed that the most desirable means by which information as to the current study can be received is through the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Commission. This Committee is composed of Messrs. Harvey H. Bundy and James Grafton Rogers, both of whom are former Assistant Secretaries of State. During World War II, Mr. Bundy, as a Special Assistant to the Secretary of War, served as the personal and confidential assistant of Hon. Henry L. Stimson. Mr. Rogers likewise was in government service during World War II as a Deputy Director in the Office of Strategic Services. In addition, Mr. John F. Mack, Jr., Executive Secretary of the Committee, will be working with Messrs. Bundy and Rogers and will have access to information received.

Appropriate arrangements will be worked out with you to insure the safeguarding of information received by the Committee. Insofar as you deem it desirable, information received will be confined to the

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three individuals above named and myself, and only our conclusions on organizational structure will be reported to the Commission. In this category would be information as to personnel strength and budgetary requirements of the Central Intelligence Agency.

It is understood that you will take up this matter with the National Security Council and obtain the necessary approval for the arrangements outlined above to be carried into effect.

A copy of P.L. 162 is enclosed in order to give you full information as to the nature and extent of the authority of the Commission.

Faithfully yours,

HERBERT HOOVER

~~Enclosure~~

~~JFH:W~~

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